IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of HASEGAWA et al.

Serial No. Herewith : Group Art Unit: TBD

Filed: Herewith : Examiner: TBD

Title: ZINC ACRYLATE AND METHOD

FOR PRODUCTION THEROF

Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

X

Sir:

Prior to examination and prior to the calculation of the filing fee, please amend this application as follows:

In the claims:

Claim Listing:

- 1. (original) A method for the production of zinc acrylate, which comprises dispersing zinc oxide in any of (a) an aliphatic hydrocarbon solvent, (b) a mixed solvent formed between an aliphatic hydrocarbon solvent and an aromatic hydrocarbon solvent, and (c) a mixed solvent formed between an aromatic hydrocarbon solvent and an alcohol and causing acrylic acid to react with said zinc oxide in said solvent.
- 2. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the reaction of said zinc oxide with acrylic acid in said solvent is performed in the presence of a higher fatty acid of 12 30 carbon atoms.

- 3. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said aliphatic hydrocarbon solvent is an alkane having 6 10 carbon atoms, said alcohol is an alcohol having 1 8 carbon atoms, and said aromatic hydrocarbon solvent is toluene or xylene.
- 4. (original) Zinc acrylate forming the crystals thereof having a long axis of not less than 5µm and an aspect ratio in the range of 1 30.
- 5. (original) Zinc acrylate according to claim 4, further having a 50% particle diameter of not less than $6\mu m$.
- 6. (original) Zinc acrylate according to claim 4, wherein the ratio of passage of the crystals thereof through a sieve opening of 1 mm is not less than 90%.
- 7. (original) Zinc acrylate according to claim 4, wherein the solid disintegrating load of the crystals thereof is not more than 1.0 kg/cm².
- 8. (original) Zinc acrylate according to claim 4, wherein the crystals thereof have a degree of compaction of not more than 50%.
- 9. (currently amended) A zinc acrylate composition, comprising the zinc acrylate set forth in any of claims 4 8 claim 4 and a zinc salt of a higher aliphatic acid of 12 30 carbon atoms.